

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-4 (Cancelled)

5. (Currently amended) A nozzle adapted for mounting on the discharge chute of an associated blower, said nozzle comprising: a nozzle body being open at an inlet end and open at an outlet end, said inlet end and said outlet end being in flow communication through a channel formed in said nozzle body, said nozzle body including a nozzle restriction caused by a change in shape of the channel in an upper region such that the air velocity in the upper region of the nozzle is greater than the air velocity in a lower region of the nozzle at the outlet end and being adapted so that air passing through an upper region of said channel changes direction from said inlet end to said outlet end and wherein air passing through a lower portion of said channel flows in a generally constant direction from said inlet end to said outlet end.

6. (Currently amended) A nozzle adapted for mounting on the discharge chute of an associated blower, said nozzle comprising: a nozzle body being open at an inlet end and open at an outlet end, said inlet end and said outlet end being in flow communication through a channel formed in said nozzle body, said channel being associated with a first cross-sectional area at said inlet end, and said channel being associated with a second cross-sectional area at said outlet end, wherein said second cross-sectional area is less than said first cross-sectional area, the reduction in cross-sectional area being substantially caused by a change in the shape of the channel in an upper portion of the nozzle body, such that air velocity through an upper region of the channel is greater than the air velocity through a lower region of the channel at the outlet end.

7. (Original) The nozzle of claim 6 wherein said second cross-sectional area is approximately 50% to 75% of said first cross-sectional area.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently amended) In combination, a blower for generating a flow of air, said blower having a discharge chute, and a nozzle, said nozzle being adapted for mounting on the discharge chute, wherein the airflow through said discharge chute generally has a greater velocity in a lower region than in an upper region, wherein the combination comprises: said discharge chute having a generally planar lower interior surface; and, said nozzle having a nozzle body having an upper wall, a lower wall, and spaced side walls defining a channel being open at an inlet end and open at an outlet end, said lower wall having an interior surface being generally aligned with said lower interior surface of said discharge chute and said [upper wall including a sloped region] nozzle body being shaped to provide a nozzle restriction in an upper region of said nozzle body such that the air velocity in the upper region is greater than the air velocity in a lower region of the nozzle at the outlet end.

11. (Original) The combination of claim 10 wherein: said channel is associated with a first cross-sectional area at said inlet end, and said channel is associated with a second cross-sectional area at said outlet end, wherein said second cross-sectional area is less than said first cross-sectional area.

12. (Original) The combination of claim 11 wherein: said second cross-sectional area is approximately 50% to 75% of said first cross-sectional area.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (New) The nozzle of claim 6 wherein the shape of said channel at the inlet end is such that the cross-sectional area of an upper region of the channel located above a plane drawn midway between an upper wall and a lower wall of the nozzle body is substantially equal to the cross-sectional area of a lower region of the channel below the plane at said inlet end, and wherein the shape of the channel changes between said inlet end and said outlet end such that the cross-sectional area of the upper region of the channel at the outlet end is smaller than the cross-sectional area of the lower region of the channel at the outlet end thereby forming a restriction in the upper end, the change in channel shape causing air from said blower to travel at a higher velocity at the outlet end in the upper region of the channel than air passing through the lower region of the channel.

16. (New) The nozzle of claim 15 wherein the nozzle is removably mounted on the discharge chute such that the nozzle is adapted to be removed and repositioned by inverting the nozzle such that the restriction is in a lower portion of the nozzle.

17. (New) The combination of claim 10 wherein the shape of said channel at the inlet end is such that the cross-sectional area of an upper region of the channel located above a plane drawn midway between an upper wall and a lower wall of the nozzle body is substantially equal to the cross-sectional area of a lower region of the channel below the plane at said inlet end, and wherein the shape of the channel changes between said inlet end and said outlet end such that the cross-sectional area of the upper region of the channel is smaller than the cross-sectional area of the lower region of the channel causing air from said blower to travel at a higher velocity in the upper region of the channel than air passing through the lower region of the channel at the outlet end.

18 (New) A nozzle adapted for mounting on a discharge chute of an associated blower, said nozzle comprising a nozzle body being open at an inlet end and open at an outlet end, said inlet end and said outlet end being in flow communication through a channel formed in said nozzle body, wherein the shape of said channel at the inlet end is such that the cross-sectional area of an upper region of the channel located above a plane drawn midway between an upper

wall and a lower wall of the nozzle body is substantially equal to the cross-sectional area of a lower region of the channel below the plane at said inlet end, and wherein the shape of the channel changes between said inlet end and said outlet end such that the cross-sectional area of the upper region of the channel is smaller than the cross-sectional area of the lower region of the channel causing air from said blower to travel at a higher velocity in the upper region of the channel than air passing through the lower region of the channel at the outlet end.

19. (New) The nozzle of claim 18 wherein said channel has a first cross-sectional area at said inlet end, and said channel has a second cross-sectional area at said outlet end, wherein said second cross-sectional area is less than said first cross-sectional area, the reduction in cross-sectional area being substantially caused by a change in the shape of the channel between the inlet and outlet ends.

20. (New) The nozzle of claim 18 wherein the shape of the nozzle at the inlet end is substantially the same as the shape of the discharge chute such that the nozzle is mountable on the discharge chute.

21. (New) The nozzle of claim 20 wherein the nozzle is removably mounted on the discharge chute and is adapted to be removed and repositioned on the discharge chute by inverting the nozzle such that the air from said blower travels at a higher velocity in the lower region of the channel at the outlet end.